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COMMENT:

Jim Carleton

*6043 Lymbar Drive
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January 26, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

It has become apparent that some anti-Microsoft forces are attempting to derail the settlement that was reached in the antitrust case this November. It would be very unfortunate if the case was resumed, and Microsoft was forced to continue wasting time and money on this case.

A settlement was agreed to by all sides, and approved by a federal judge. Sadly, forces opposed to the settlement are trying to interfere and have this case resuscitated. Many want to see Microsoft face injury in the court because they are unable to compete with Microsoft in the free market.

It is unfortunate that this opposition exists because the settlement is beneficial to all, including Microsoft's rivals. The settlement give non-Microsoft companies the ability to view and use Microsoft code to create better software. It also will make it very simple for non-Microsoft software to be placed on Microsoft operating systems. Undoubtedly, it is time to conclude this case, and promote competition in the market, not the courts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Carleton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Jim Carleton

Cc: Rep. Tom DeLay